

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. [Currently Amended] A computer implemented method for procuring and managing professional services by ~~an~~ a client organization via a computer network, said method comprising:
 - (a) providing a computer controlled by the client organization which may communicate with a service provider computer over a computer network;
 - (b) prompting a service provider, at the direction of the client organization, to complete a service order comprising at least the following information to the organization:
 - i. a file identifier;
 - ii. a description of the services to be provided; and
 - iii. estimated cost;
 - (c) receiving the service order ~~for approval or disapproval~~; and
 - (d) approving or disapproving the proposed service order received from the service provider; and
 - (e) notifying the service provider of the approval or disapproval.
2. [Original] The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
 - (a) storing the service order in a memory accessible to the organization;
 - (b) upon completion of the professional services, prompting the service provider to enter a completion order comprising at least the following information:
 - i. the file identifier; and
 - ii. actual cost;
 - (c) receiving the completion order and adding it to the service order; and
 - (d) providing means to compare the estimated cost of the service order to the actual cost of the completion order.
3. [Previously Amended] The method of claim 1 wherein the service order further identifies a individual within the organization, who is the contact individual for the professional services.

4. [Original] The method of claim 3 wherein the individual is prompted to review the service order by email notification.
5. [Original] The method of claim 1 wherein the service order further comprises one, some or all of the following information:
 - (a) activity code matched to a category of type of service;
 - (b) identity of individual service provider;
 - (c) desired result;
 - (d) estimated completion date; and
 - (e) estimated time to complete.
6. [Original] The method of claim 5 further comprising the steps of:
 - (a) storing the service order in a memory accessible to the organization;
 - (b) upon completion of the professional services, prompting the service provider to enter a completion order comprising at least the following information:
 - i. the file identifier;
 - ii. the actual cost;
 - iii. actual result obtained;
 - iv. actual completion date; and
 - v. actual time to complete;
 - (c) receiving the completion order and adding it to the service order; and
 - (d) providing means to compare the information in the service order to the corresponding information in the completion order.